

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Debby Barrett, on April 1, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Debby Barrett, Chair (R)
Sen. Greg Hinkle, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kevin McCue, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 196, 3/31/2011; HB 587, 3/31/2011; HB 602, 3/31/2011

Executive Action: HB 196 - Be concurred in
HB 602 - Be concurred in

HEARING ON HB 196

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:55 Rep. Pat Connell (R), HD 87, opened the hearing on HB 196, Provide that Dept. of Commerce assist local gov't with fed land management props.

Proponents' Testimony:

None

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:07:51 Sen. Wanzenried
00:08:15 Rep. Connell
00:11:13 Sen. Tropila
00:11:55 Rep. Connell
00:12:58 Sen. Vincent
00:13:12 Rep. Connell
00:14:17 Sen. Barrett
00:14:26 Rep. Connell

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:32 Rep. Connell

HEARING ON HB 587

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:17 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 587, Provide option for associate water court judge.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:20:07 Lois Menzies, Court Administrator, Supreme Court
00:21:47 Krista Lee Evans, lobbyist, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC), the Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI) and on behalf of John Youngberg, lobbyist, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
00:22:45 Holly Franz, lobbyist, PPL Montana, LLC
00:23:57 Mike Murphy, lobbyist, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
00:24:28 Ali Bovingdon, Deputy Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
00:25:21 Mark Aagenes, lobbyist, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU)

00:25:31 Jay Bodner, lobbyist, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA)

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:26:14 Sen. Keane
 00:26:32 Rep. McNutt
 00:27:05 Sen. Peterson
 00:27:40 Rep. McNutt
 00:30:02 Sen. Vincent
 00:30:29 Rep. McNutt
 00:31:06 Sen. Tropila
 00:31:22 Rep. McNutt
 00:31:30 Sen. Barrett
 00:31:37 Rep. McNutt

Closing by Sponsor:

00:32:51 Rep. McNutt

HEARING ON HB 602

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:33:03 Rep. Walter McNutt (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 602, Require interim study of exempt water wells.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:35:52 Krista Lee Evans, lobbyist, Senior Water Rights Coalition (SWRC), the Association of Gallatin Agricultural Irrigators (AGAI) and on behalf of John Youngberg, lobbyist, Montana Farm Bureau Federation (MFBF)
 00:36:51 Dustin Stewart, lobbyist, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)
EXHIBIT(nas73a01)
 00:39:19 Mike Murphy, lobbyist, Montana Water Resources Association (MWRA)
 00:39:49 Abigail St. Lawrence, lobbyist, Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)
 00:43:28 Bill Schenk, attorney, Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)
 00:44:05 Ronda Wiggers, lobbyist, Montana Water Well Drillers Association (MWWDA)
 00:46:03 Jay Bodner, lobbyist, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA)
 00:46:43 Mark Aagenes, lobbyist, Montana Trout Unlimited (MTU) and Clark Fork Coalition (CFC)
 00:47:12 Jeff Tiberi, lobbyist, Montana Association of Conservation Districts
 00:47:27 Holly Franz, lobbyist, PPL Montana, LLC

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Informational Testimony:

00:47:49 John Metesh, Senior Research Hydrogeologist, Bureau of Mines and Geology (BMG)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:48:14 Sen. Keane
 00:48:30 Mr. Metesh, BMG
 00:49:16 Sen. Wanzenried
 00:49:55 Rep. McNutt
 00:52:12 Sen. Vincent
 00:52:29 Rep. McNutt
 00:53:24 Sen. Keane
 00:53:44 Rep. McNutt
 00:54:32 Sen. Jackson
 00:55:13 Mr. Metesh
 00:56:41 Sen. Peterson left the hearing.
 00:58:42 Sen. Barrett
 00:59:02 Rep. McNutt

Closing by Sponsor:

00:59:09 Rep. McNutt

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 196

01:00:12 **Motion:** Sen. Hinkle moved that **HB 196 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:00:34 Sen. Vincent
 01:01:04 Sen. Tropila
 01:02:39 Sen. Wanzenried
 01:03:05 Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

01:03:44 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-4 by roll call vote with Sen. Kaufmann, Sen. Keane, Sen. Larsen and Sen. Tropila voting no. Sen. Peterson voted by proxy. Sen. Vincent will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 602

01:04:53 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hinkle moved that **HB 602 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Peterson voted by proxy. Sen. Hamlett will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:

01:05:46

Kevin McCue, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas73aad.pdf](#))